

Message Text

PAGE 01 LUSAKA 03050 02 OF 02 121701Z

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UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 LUSAKA 3050

SENATOR CLARK: I THINK IT'S PROBABLY PRESUMPTUOUS OF ME TO OUTLINE THE SPECIFIC WAYS IN WHICH GREAT BRITAIN CAN BE MORE HELPFUL, BUT I DO THINK THAT THAT HAS TO BE IN THE CONSIDERATIONS OF THE SOLUTION. IT DOES SEEM TO ME, IN OTHER WORDS, THAT GREAT BRITAIN HAS TO PLAY AN INCREASING ROLE, AN INCREASINGLY STRONG ROLE, RIGHT AT THE CONFERENCE, IN TERMS OF TRYING TO RESOLVE THESE ISSUES; AND THEN I THINK IN THE TRANSITION GOVERNMENT ITSELF THAT GREAT BRITAIN OBVIOUSLY IS GOING TO HAVE TO PLAY A GREATER ROLE AND I THINK THAT REASSUMING RESIDUAL POWERS AND SO FORTH, IS A DISTINCT POSSIBILITY. I THINK THAT SOMETHING OF THAT KIND IS CLEARLY GOING TO HAVE TO TAKE PLACE, IF WE ARE GOING TO HAVE THE KIND OF SOLUTIONS THAT I THINK WE ALL FEEL WE OUGHT TO HAVE.

Q. SENATOR, FOR SOMETIME NOW WE HAVE HAD CONTRADICTORY REPORTS ABOUT THE PROGRESS THAT IS BEING MADE AT THE CONFERENCE. JUST SUPPOSING THE CONFERENCE FAILS TO FIND ANY SOLUTIONS, WHAT WOULD BE THE ROLE OF THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT?

SENATOR CLARK: I THINK OUR ROLE HAS TO CONTINUE TO BE TWO-FOLD. ONE TO FIND A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT AND TWO TO HAVE A JUST SETTLEMENT. IN FACT, I THINK I WOULD REVERSE THOSE. I WOULD SAY TO FIND A JUST, RACIAL SETTLEMENT, A SETTLEMENT THAT IS BASED ON RACIAL JUSTICE, IS A BETTER WAY OF PUTTING IT, AND A SYSTEM THAT IS NEGOTIATED. I THINK THOSE ARE THE THINGS WE HAVE TO CONTINUE TO WORK FOR WHATEVER HAPPENS AT GENEVA. THAT HAS TO BE OUR EMPHASIS.
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PAGE 02 LUSAKA 03050 02 OF 02 121701Z

WE HAVE TO USE OUR GOOD OFFICES IN A DIPLOMATIC WAY, WORKING WITH ALL OF THE PARTIES, WORKING WITH GREAT BRITAIN, IN AN EFFORT TO TRY TO FIND THAT KIND OF JUST SETTLEMENT.

Q. IAN SMITH SINCE THAT TIME WHEN HE LEFT GENEVA TO GO BACK TO RHODESIA, HAS BEEN MAKING MORE OR LESS CONTRADICTORY STATEMENTS ABOUT THE PROGRESS AND WHAT WILL COME UP. WHAT DO YOU SEE AS THE ROLE OF SMITH AND HIS MINISTERS? ARE THEY HELPING THE CONFERENCE OR ARE THEY RETARDING THE PROGRESS?

SENATOR CLARK: WELL, MY OWN VIEW IS THAT THE SMITH GOVERNMENT IS GOING TO HAVE TO GO BEYOND THE FIVE POINTS. I THINK IT'S CLEAR THAT IF WE ARE GOING TO GET A SETTLEMENT THAT THERE HAS TO BE SOME GIVE. I THINK BOTH SECRETARY KISSINGER AND PRIME MINISTER CALLAGHAN HAVE SAID THAT THEY CONSIDER THESE FIVE POINTS ONLY A NEGOTIATING POINT, NOT THAT IT'S A FINAL PACKAGE., NOT THAT IT'S A CONTRACT, NOT THAT IT'S SOMETHING THAT WE CAN'T GO BEYOND. SO I THINK THERE IS GOING TO HAVE TO BE SOME GIVE IF INDEED WE ARE GOING TO HAVE A SETTLEMENT. AND I THINK EVERYONE RECOGNIZES THIS NOW.

Q. DO YOU EXPECT TO SEE PRIME MINISTER VORSTER?

SENATOR CLARK: I HOPE TO SEE ALL OF THE PARTIES INVOLVED ON EVERY SIDE. MY PURPOSE IN COMING HERE IS TO TRY TO LISTEN TO EVERY SINGLE SIDE OF THIS ARGUMENT. SO I AM HOPEFUL THAT SUCH A MEETING CAN BE ARRANGED. I WOULD HOPE THAT EVERYBODY (GARBLED -- APPROX. FOUR WORDS) I HOPE TO HAVE THE VIEWS OF EVERY SINGLE REPRESENTATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA BEFORE COMING TO ANY INDEPENDENT CONCLUSION.

Q. YOU INDICATED THAT THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION WILL TAKE A NEW ALIGNMENT IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.

SENATOR CLARK: NO, I DON'T THINK I INDICATED THAT. I CAN'T SPEAK FOR THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION. I THINK THAT'S THE JUDGMENT THAT THEY ARE GOING TO HAVE TO MAKE FOR THEMSELVES, BUT WE HOPE THAT WITH THE NEW ADMINISTRATION, COMES A CLEAN SLATE, COMES A NEW ATTITUDE, COMES A NEW EFFORT, AND I AM CONFIDENT THAT WE ARE GOING TO FOLLOW AN INCREASINGLY ENLIGHTENED POLICY FOR SOUTHERN AFRICA.

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PAGE 03 LUSAKA 03050 02 OF 02 121701Z

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